

rely on this to traverse the objection because Fielder does not teach steps a. and b. of the claimed method. In particular, Fielder does not teach providing one word in each compression packet with a **component** of configuration data, so that overall a compression block contains sufficient configuration information to identify the manner of packing data into the compression block.

The passage in Fielder cited by the Examiner, column 8, lines 41-43, teaches control data being generated for a control segment 270 that includes a synchronization pattern which allows decoders to synchronize to sequential frames. This has nothing to do with the manner of packing data into the frames, but rather provides synchronization information only. Equally important, the control data is not indicated as being merely "a component" of configuration data, which is read together with other components to identify the manner of packing the data.

In fact, Fielder specifically teaches away from this feature, stating that his process may be repeated for each block of the audio signal coded into a corresponding sequential frame of the data channel (col. 8, lines 49-52). There would be reason to repeat the process for each block of the audio signal, and in fact it would not be possible to repeat the process for each block of the audio signal, if Fielder generated *different* components of configuration data in each block. Fielder's system is redundant, and the repetition of the same configuration data in different blocks takes up space that could be used for other data.

According to the present invention, compressed audio and other data is packed into any available bits for an audio subframe in a way that the packing method used can be detected and decoded at the receiving station. Each word within a compression block (e.g. consisting of 48 compression packets) is provided with only a **component** of the configuration information. The packing methodology is decoded at the receiving end after the various components within the compression block have been read. In this manner, the redundancy inherent in systems like Fielder's is avoided, allowing more information to be packed into the remaining available bits; accommodating 16, 20 and 24 bit resolutions; and allowing for packing in a variety of formats, including different formats for different channels.

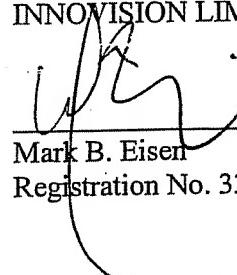
January 9, 2004

The applicant thus submits that claim 1 and 11 as presently written distinguish the invention over the cited prior art. Favourable reconsideration and allowance of this application are therefore respectfully requested.

A Petition for an Extension of Time requesting an extension of two months for filing the subject response is enclosed. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in the fees for same to our Deposit Account No. 500663. A signed copy of this page is enclosed if required for this purpose.

Executed at Toronto, Ontario, Canada, on January 9, 2004.

INNOVISION LIMITED



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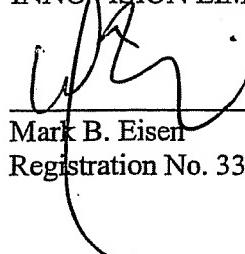
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Petition for Extension of Time (in duplicate)

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